

# MARINES BOXING, WRESTLING & MARTIAL ARTS



## BOXING, WRESTLING & MARTIAL ARTS STATS:

**2004 – Year Ken Norton, former Marine corporal was inducted into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame.**

**Marines Ranked on the U.S. National Wrestling Team – Jake Clark, James Shillow, Marcel Cooper, Dan Hicks**

**Former Marines and World Champion Boxers – Terry Downes, Carmen Basilio, Buster Drayton, Ray Mercer, Barney Ross, Leon Spinks, Gene Tunney, Mike Weaver**

## Hookin' & Jabbin'

**M**AYBE IT'S THEIR WARRIOR spirit; maybe it's living up to an old cliché about Marines getting in fights — regardless of the reason, Marines love mixing it up. Boxing and wrestling have long been mainstays of Marine Corps sports. Add to this founda-

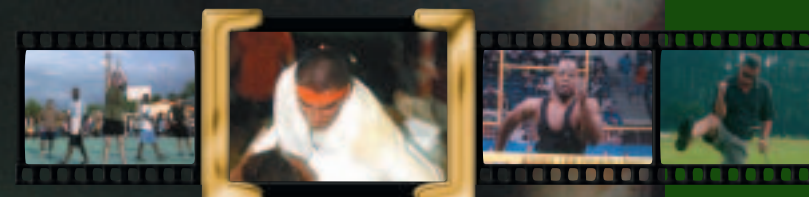
tion, the Corpswide martial arts program, and you have a mixture that sets the stage — or the ring — for a match or bout. Despite obstacles and deployments, this year Marines rose to the challenge. They created the "Friday Night Fights" at Camp Al Asad, Iraq, an

event that brought in nearly 500 Marine spectators, and continues today. They competed in championships across the nation and took home gold silver and bronze medals in Armed Forces wrestling. The All-Marine wrestling team visited schools to teach children about the Corp's sports programs. Marines sparred, competed and lead.

Whether weaving or throwing, freestyle or southpaw, ring, mat, knockout or takedown, Marines are there — fighting to win. **M**

**< CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa, Japan** – Saul Perez knocks the sweat off Randall Blake's head with a devastating punch at the Foster Field House during the Saturday Night Fights here June 26, 2004. Perez won the fight when the referee stopped the contest 1:45 into the second round. The amateur open boxing exhibition featured nine fights in five weight classes ranging from light welterweight to super heavyweight.

Photo by Pfc. Brandon R. Holgersen



**▼ HENOKO, Okinawa, Japan** – Jason G. Alvarez drives his opponent into the sand at the annual Henoko Sumo Wrestling Tournament at Mae-no-Hama Beach May 29, 2004. Marines battled heavyweight sumo wrestlers in the tournament.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Joel Abshier

